

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 6. Canceled

7. (Currently Amended) A system for producing ~~superficial~~ layers of a resin-molded article with a spring structure, the article comprising a three-dimensional structure including voids at a predetermined bulk density, the three-dimensional structure having a core layer sandwiched between oppositely disposed superficial layers being obtained by extruding a melt of a thermoplastic resin and/or a thermoplastic elastomer into melted continuous solid and/or hollow filaments, and causing adjacent filaments to contact each other, entwine and gather, ~~entwining and gathering~~ to form random loops and curls, the system comprising: ~~a superficial layer forming unit which includes:~~

an extrusion molding system comprising a hopper;

a molding die comprising a plurality of nozzles;

a bath having a water inlet valve and a water outlet valve;

rectangular shoots each having an inclined surface placed opposite to each other with a gap in between to receive the filaments in such a manner as to shift the gap being narrower in lengthwise of the extruding ~~[[the]]~~ filaments passing through the

gap;

water-permeating sheets covering which cover the top surfaces of the respective shoots; [[and]]

cooling water supply portions each of which provides water flow flows water between [[a]] the water-permeating sheets sheet and the top surface of the respective shoots a sheet,

wherein some part of the water flow penetrates the water-permeating ~~sheet~~ sheets to appear on their top surfaces its top surface to form thereon there an overlying water current uniformly spreading lengthwise, while the other part of the water flow forms an underlying water current, and peripheral filaments constituting [[a]] lengthwise surfaces surface of [[a]] the three-dimensional structure which will constitute [[a]] the superficial layers layer of the three-dimensional structure [[is]] are exposed to and agitated by the ~~flow end of~~ [[an]] overlying water current such that adjacent filaments are caused to contact each other, entwine and gather to form loops and curls[.];

a winder to take off the filaments after passing through the gap, the winder being submerged under water in the bath, the winder including take-off rolls comprising a pair of upper and lower rollers connected with an endless belt;

take-up rolls to lift the resin-molded article from the bath;
and

a cutting unit to cut the resin-molded article into pieces having desired lengths.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for producing ~~superficial~~
~~layers of~~ a resin-molded article with a spring structure as in
Claim 7, wherein ~~in which~~ the water-permeating sheets are ~~sheet is~~
made of a material ~~such as cloth which~~ allows water to permeate,
and has a higher frictional coefficient than ~~[[does]]~~ stainless
steel or ~~[[a]]~~ fluorine resin.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for producing ~~superficial~~
~~layers of~~ a resin-molded article with a spring structure as in
Claim 7, wherein ~~in which said~~ each shoot consists of a stainless
steel plate whose working surface is coated with a fluorine resin.